

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2023

HOUSE BILL No. 2346

By Committee on Transportation

2-7

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to distinctive license plates;
2 providing for the back the blue license plate; **amending K.S.A. 8-1,141**
3 **and repealing the existing section.**
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 **New Section 1.** (a) On and after January 1, 2024, any owner or lessee
7 of one or more passenger vehicles or trucks registered for a gross weight
8 of 20,000 pounds or less, who is a resident of Kansas, upon compliance
9 with the provisions of this section, may be issued one back the blue license
10 plate for each such passenger vehicle or truck. Such license plates shall be
11 issued for the same time as other license plates upon proper registration
12 and payment of the regular license fee as provided in K.S.A. 8-143, and
13 amendments thereto, and payment to the county treasurer of the law
14 enforcement ~~training~~ support fee as provided for in subsection (b).

15 (b) Any applicant or renewal of registration for a back the blue
16 license plate authorized by this section shall make payment of a law
17 enforcement ~~training~~ support fee to the county treasurer of \$30 for each
18 license plate to be issued. Any law enforcement ~~training~~ support fee
19 payment received pursuant to this section shall be used to support the
20 purposes of the ~~local law enforcement training reimbursement fund~~
21 ~~established in K.S.A. 74-5620, and amendments thereto~~ **Kansas chapter**
22 **of concerns of police survivors (COPS), inc.**

23 (c) Any applicant for a license plate authorized by this section may
24 make application for such license plate not less than 60 days prior to such
25 person's renewal of registration date, on a form prescribed and furnished
26 by the director of vehicles, and any applicant for such license plate shall
27 pay to the county treasurer the law enforcement training support fee as
28 provided for in subsection (b). Application for registration of a passenger
29 vehicle or truck and issuance of the license plate under this section shall be
30 made by the owner or lessee in a manner prescribed by the director of
31 vehicles upon forms furnished by the director.

32 (d) No registration or license plate issued under this section shall be
33 transferable to any other person.

34 (e) The director of vehicles may transfer back the blue license plates
35 from a leased vehicle to a purchased vehicle.

36 (f) Renewals of registration under this section shall be made annually,

1 upon payment of the fee prescribed in K.S.A. 8-143, and amendments
2 thereto, and in the manner prescribed in K.S.A. 8-132(b), and amendments
3 thereto. No renewal of registration shall be made to any applicant until
4 such applicant pays the law enforcement ~~training~~ support fee to the county
5 treasurer as provided for in subsection (b). If the annual law enforcement
6 ~~training~~ support fee payment is not made to the county treasurer at the time
7 of registration, the applicant shall be required to comply with K.S.A. 8-
8 143, and amendments thereto, and return the license plate to the county
9 treasurer of such person's residence.

10 (g) **The Kansas chapter of concerns of police survivors (COPS),**
11 **inc. shall provide to all county treasurers an electronic mail address**
12 **where applicants can contact the Kansas chapter of concerns of police**
13 **survivors (COPS), inc. for information concerning the application**
14 **process or the status of such applicant's license plate application.**

15 (h) The back the blue license plate shall have a background design,
16 an emblem or colors that designate the license plate as a back the blue
17 license plate.

18 ~~(h)~~(i) As a condition of receiving the back the blue license plate and
19 any subsequent registration renewal of such license plate, the applicant
20 shall provide consent to the division authorizing the division's release of
21 motor vehicle record information, including the applicant's name, address,
22 law enforcement ~~training~~ support fee payment amount, plate number and
23 vehicle type to the **Kansas chapter of concerns of police survivors**
24 **(COPS), inc. and the state treasurer.**

25 ~~(i) Annual law enforcement training support fee payments collected~~
26 ~~by county treasurers under this section shall be remitted to the state~~
27 ~~treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and~~
28 ~~amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state~~
29 ~~treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit~~
30 ~~of the local law enforcement training reimbursement fund established in~~
31 ~~K.S.A. 74-5620, and amendments thereto. All expenditures from the local~~
32 ~~law enforcement training reimbursement fund shall be made in accordance~~
33 ~~with K.S.A. 74-5620, and amendments thereto.~~(j) **The collection and**
34 **remittance of annual law enforcement support fee payments by the**
35 **county treasurer shall be subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 8-**
36 **1,141(h), and amendments thereto, except that payments from the**
37 **back the blue royalty fund shall be made on a monthly basis to the**
38 **Kansas chapter of concerns of police survivors (COPS), inc.**

39 **Sec. 2. K.S.A. 8-1,141 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-**
40 **1,141. (a) Any new distinctive license plate authorized for issuance on**
41 **and after July 1, 1994, shall be subject to the personalized license plate**
42 **fee prescribed by K.S.A. 8-132(c), and amendments thereto. This**
43 **section shall not apply to any distinctive license plate authorized prior**

1 to July 1, 1994.

2 (b) The director of vehicles shall not issue any new distinctive
3 license plate unless there is a guarantee of an initial issuance of at least
4 250 license plates.

5 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to distinctive
6 license plates issued under the provisions of ~~K.S.A. 8-1,145, and~~
7 ~~amendments thereto, or~~ K.S.A. 8-177d, 8-1,145, 8-1,163, 8-1,166, 8-
8 1,185, 8-1,186, 8-1,187, 8-1,188, 8-1,194, 8-1,195, 8-1,196, 8-1,197, 8-
9 1,198, 8-1,199, 8-1,204 or 8-1,205, and amendments thereto.

10 (d) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to distinctive
11 license plates issued under the provisions of ~~K.S.A. 8-1,146 or 8-1,148,~~
12 ~~and amendments thereto, or~~ K.S.A. 8-1,146, 8-1,148, 8-1,153, 8-1,158 or
13 8-1,161, and amendments thereto.

14 (e) The provisions of subsection (f) shall not apply to distinctive
15 license plates issued under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-1,160 ~~and~~ 8-
16 1,183 *and section 1*, and amendments thereto, except that the division
17 shall delay the manufacturing and issuance of such distinctive license
18 plate until the division has received not fewer than 100 orders for such
19 plate, including payment of the personalized license plate fee required
20 under subsection (a). Upon certification by the director of vehicles to
21 the director of accounts and reports that not less than 100 paid orders
22 for such plate have been received, the director of accounts and reports
23 shall transfer \$4,000 from the state highway fund to the distinctive
24 license plate fund.

25 (f) (1) Any person or organization sponsoring any distinctive
26 license plate authorized by the legislature shall submit to the division
27 of vehicles a nonrefundable amount not to exceed \$5,000, to defray the
28 division's cost for developing such distinctive license plate.

29 (2) All moneys received under this subsection shall be remitted by
30 the secretary of revenue to the state treasurer in accordance with the
31 provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt
32 of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire
33 amount in the state treasury to the credit of the distinctive license
34 plate fund which is hereby created in the state treasury. All moneys
35 credited to the distinctive license plate fund shall be used by the
36 department of revenue only for the purpose associated with the
37 development of distinctive license plates. All expenditures from the
38 distinctive license plate application fee fund shall be made in
39 accordance with appropriation acts, upon warrants of the director of
40 accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the
41 secretary of the department of revenue.

42 (g) The director of vehicles shall discontinue the issuance of any
43 distinctive license plate if:

1 **(1) Fewer than 250 plates, including annual renewals, are issued**
2 **for that distinctive license plate by the end of the second year of sales;**
3 **and**

4 **(2) fewer than 125 license plates, including annual renewals, are**
5 **issued for that distinctive license plate during any subsequent two-**
6 **year period.**

7 **(h) An application for any distinctive license plate issued and the**
8 **corresponding royalty fee may be collected either by the county**
9 **treasurer or the entity benefiting from the issuance of the distinctive**
10 **license plate. Annual royalty payments collected by the county**
11 **treasurers shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with**
12 **the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon**
13 **receipt of each such remittance the state treasurer shall deposit the**
14 **entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of a segregated royalty**
15 **fund which shall be administered by the state treasurer. All**
16 **expenditures from the royalty fund shall be made in accordance with**
17 **appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and**
18 **reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the state treasurer or**
19 **the state treasurer's designee. Payments from the royalty fund shall be**
20 **made to the entity benefiting from the issuance of the distinctive**
21 **license plate on a monthly basis.**

22 **(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any distinctive**
23 **license plate, the division shall produce such distinctive license plate**
24 **for a motorcycle upon request to the division by the organization**
25 **sponsoring the distinctive license plate.**

26 **(j) In addition to any residency requirements for all distinctive**
27 **license plates, any person not a resident of Kansas, serving as a**
28 **member of the armed forces stationed in this state shall be eligible to**
29 **apply for any distinctive license plate as if the individual was a**
30 **resident of this state. Such person shall be eligible to renew the**
31 **distinctive license plate registration as long as the person is still**
32 **stationed in this state at the time the registration is renewed.**

33 **Sec. 3. K.S.A. 8-1,141 is hereby repealed.**

34 ~~Sec. 2:~~ **4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its**
35 **publication in the statute book.**